



THE CENTER
FOR BONE & JOINT CARE

ORTHOPEDIC ASSOCIATES OF WINDHAM COUNTY

Scott A. Green, D.O. Kevin J. Reagan, M.D. Christian H. Dee, M.D. Biren Chokshi, M.D.

February 3, 2009

To Members of the Labor Committee:

My name is Donald St. Onge, and I am the Practice Administrator at The Center For Bone & Joint Care, an Orthopedic Practice located in Putnam CT.

I am writing to voice my opposition to HB-6187, which would require Connecticut employers to provide paid sick leave. We are a small business and this proposal will substantially increase our business costs and could force us to reevaluate the other benefits we provide our employees.

Our company currently provides a sick-time benefit for full time employees at the rate of 0.77 hours for every forty hours worked. This bill, if enacted, would increase our cost by 20% and will force our practice to reduce vacation time or other benefits to pay for this added benefit. At a time when medical practices and hospitals are failing to meet their revenue needs adding this expense just does not make sense. When was the last time the State of Connecticut increased reimbursement to Physicians who provide care to patients receiving Medicaid / Husky benefits? I can tell you that it has been many years and there is no relief in sight. Adding expenses during a dismal economy does not make any sense.

We urge you to reject this proposal and work with the business community to control labor and workplace costs in Connecticut. Thank you.

Signed,

Donald St. Onge, RN, MS
Practice Administrator